

STATE SENATOR • MARK SCHAUER • 19TH DISTRICT

Schauer Press Release



P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-2426 • Fax: 517-373-2964
E-mail: senmschauer@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.state.mi.us/dem/SD19

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 2, 2003

Contact: Sen. Mark Schauer
(517) 373-2426

SEN. SCHAUER INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO HELP END CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING

Schauer's legislation is part of bill package supporting Governor's lead poisoning prevention plan

LANSING – State Sen. Mark Schauer recently introduced legislation as part of a bi-partisan package of bills designed to curb the threat of lead poisoning in Michigan. The bill package is part of Governor Granholm's overall plan to protect children from lead poisoning.

"Our children are our future," Granholm said. "Protecting their health today means that we're protecting the health of our entire state tomorrow. Lead poisoning is 100 percent incurable, but 100 percent preventable. I know Sen. Schauer is a staunch advocate for keeping kids healthy. I thank him for all of his hard work and support on this very important issue."

The five-bill package includes measures that will:

- Create a Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Control Commission;
- Require Medicaid managed Care Organizations and Fee for Service Providers to provide lead screening test to no fewer than 80 percent of Medicaid enrolled children;
- Require electronic reporting from Michigan laboratories of positive lead results;
- Create an online and printed "Lead Free Rental Housing Registry" that will include new lead-free construction units or inspected rental units that have been found to be lead free; and
- Create a state civil penalty for landlords who knowingly rent homes with dangerous levels of lead.

Sen. Schauer said, "Lead poisoning is a major public health threat that can cause brain damage, learning difficulties, and anemia in children. As elected officials, we owe it to the children of Michigan to make every effort to get this public health hazard under control."

For a copy of the Governor's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention report, go to:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ChildLeadPoisoning2_71150_7.pdf

#####

Schauer is the Senate Democratic Floor Leader. He represents the 19th Senate District, which includes all of Calhoun County and most of Jackson County.